

**Amendments to the Drawings**

Kindly replace Drawing Sheet 1/1 with the attached.  
Replacement Sheet 1/1 introducing reference numeral 22. No  
new matter has been added.

**REMARKS**

The application contains pending Claims 1 and 3-16. Claims 1 and 5 stand rejected under 35 USC 102. Claims 3-4 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Claims 6-16 stand rejected under 35 USC 112. By the foregoing amendment, Claims 1 and 10 are cancelled, Claims 3-4 are rewritten in independent form, Claim 5 is amended to depend from Claim 4, and claims 6-9 and 11-16 are amended to overcome the rejections under 35 USC 112. New dependent Claims 17-18 are presented.

**Allowable Subject Matter**

Applicants acknowledge Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 3-4 with thanks. Claims 3-4 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, and should therefore now be considered allowable. Independent Claim 6 and its depending claims have been amended to overcome the rejections under 35 USC 112 and should also therefore be considered allowable.

**Drawings**

The drawings are objected to as not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims, specifically the feature of "adjoining component parts" in Claims 3, 7 and 10. Claims 3 and 7 having been amended to cancel this feature from the claims, and Claim 10 having been cancelled, this objection should be considered moot, and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has also required identification of "a braking annular groove" by a reference numeral in the detailed description and in the drawings. Therefore, Replacement Sheet 1/1 containing Figures 1-2 is submitted. Figure 1 has been

amended to include a reference number 22 pointing out the annular groove receiving the brake ring 21. Figure 2 has not been amended. No new matter has been added.

#### Specification

Paragraph [0012] has been amended to include the reference numeral 22 identifying the annular groove receiving the brake ring 21, and deleting the indication that the annular groove is not identified in detail. No new matter has been added.

#### Objections

The Examiner has suggested that the last line of Claim 15 be amended to add the term "rotatingly" or its equivalent between "discs" and "fixed." Claim 15 has therefore been amended to add the descriptor "rotatably" as suggested by the Examiner. Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this objection.

The specification was objected to as failing to provide antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter, specifically the term "monolithic" in new Claims 13-14. Accordingly, Claims 13-14 have been cancelled. The objection should therefore be considered moot, and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

#### Rejections under 35 USC 112

Claims 6-16 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The Examiner considers the last two lines of Claim 6 as vague and ambiguous since the "number of component parts" is unclear and does not appear to be part of the invention. Claim 6 has been amended to delete the last two lines of the

claim objected to by the Examiner. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection and reconsideration of the claim is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has likewise rejected Claim 10 by the use of the term "simplifies" in line 2 of that claim. Claim 10 has been cancelled, therefore the rejection should be considered moot and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Claim 16 stands rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement, in that the Examiner indicates that the term "entire" is not present in the original disclosure. Claim 16 has been amended to remove this limitation. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection and reconsideration of the claim is respectfully requested.

#### Rejections under 35 USC 102

Claims 1 and 5 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Daigre (2003/0150674 A1), and under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Tanabe et al. (EP 1067305). These rejections are respectfully traversed. Claim 1 has been cancelled. Claim 5 has been amended to depend from Claim 4, which has been indicated as allowable. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1 and 5 is respectfully requested.

#### Conclusion

Claims 3-9, 11-12 and 15-18 remain in the application. In light of the foregoing amendments addressing the Examiner's objections, the claims should be in condition for allowance. Early Notice of Allowability is therefore courteously solicited. If a telephone interview is necessary to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' representatives listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Encl: Replacement Abstract  
Replacement Drawing Sheet 1

136.05/04